

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An article comprising:
a storage medium comprising machine-readable instructions stored thereon to:
execute a software driver for a display codec, the software driver configured to control a first display codec that formats data into a first video format and control a second display codec of a plurality of display codecs that formats data into a second video format, wherein the software driver is capable of controlling more than one type of display codec without modification, so that ~~remains in~~ a default configuration of the software driver does not change when using of the first display codec is changed to using of the second display codec; and to control transmitting the data having the first video format from the first display codec to a first display and control transmitting the data having the second video format from the second display codec to a second display.

2. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 1 wherein the software driver comprises machine readable instructions to recognize each of a plurality of displays including the first display and the second display.

3. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 2 wherein the plurality of displays consist of digital displays selected from the group consisting of a flat panel, a LCD (liquid crystal display), an HDTV (high definition television), a plasma display, and a computer monitor.

4. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 1 wherein the storage medium receives digital signals from a cable television outlet.

5. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 1 wherein the storage medium receives digital signals from a satellite.

6. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 1 wherein the storage medium receives digital signals from a wireless transmission device.

7. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

executing a software driver for a display codec to transmit digital signals to a display, the software driver configured to control a first display codec that formats data into a first video format and control a second display codec of a plurality of display codecs that formats the data into a second video format, wherein the software driver is capable of controlling more than one type of display codec without modification, so that ~~remains in~~ a default configuration of the software driver does not change when using of the first display codec is changed to using of the second display codec, wherein the first display codec is configured to transmit the data having the first video format to a first display and the second display codec is configured to transmit the data having the second video format to a second display.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the software driver is part of a graphics controller for communicating with the plurality of display codecs.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 wherein each of the display codecs comprises a hardware portion that communicates with the software driver such that the graphics controller recognizes each of the plurality of display codecs at different periods of time.

10. (Original) The codec control method of claim 8 where the software driver comprises a storage medium for the graphics controller known as a universal software driver.

11. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a processor;

a memory coupled to the processor to support the processor operations;

an Ethernet card interoperating with the processor and the memory for network communications;

a first display that communicatively couples with the processor through a display codec to display images from data that are received at the first display from the first codec in a first video format; and

a graphics controller having a software driver configured to control the first display codec that formats data into the first video format and control a second display codec of a plurality of display codecs that formats the data into a second video format, wherein the software driver is capable of controlling more than one type of display codec without modification, so that remains in a default configuration of the software driver does not change when using of the first display codec is changed to using of the second display codec, wherein the second display codec is configured to transmit the data having the second video format to the second display, the graphics controller being communicatively coupled to the processor.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11 wherein the software driver comprises a universal software driver.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11 wherein the first display is a digital display.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13 wherein the first display is selected from the group consisting of a flat panel, a LCD (liquid crystal display), an HDTV (high definition television), a plasma display, and a computer monitor.

15. (Currently Amended) A graphics controller comprising:

a memory, and

a software driver coupled to the memory, wherein the software driver is configured to control a first display codec that formats data into a first video format and to control a second display codec of a plurality of display codecs that formats the data into a second video format, wherein the software driver is capable of controlling more than one type of display codec without modification, so that ~~remains in~~ a default configuration of the software driver does not change when using of the first display codec is changed to using of the second display codec, wherein the first display codec is coupled to a first display, and a second display codec is coupled to a second display.

16. (Original) The graphics controller of claim 15 wherein the software driver comprises a universal software driver.

17. (Previously Presented) The graphics controller of claim 15 further comprising a storage medium for the software driver that communicates with at least the first display codec, the software driver recognizing each of the plurality of display codecs.

18. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

emulating a graphics controller having a universal software driver to allow the graphics controller to communicatively couple with a first one of a plurality of display codecs, the graphics controller operating with default settings, wherein the software driver is configured to control the first one of the plurality of the display codecs that formats data into a first video format and control a second one of the plurality of display codecs that formats the data into a second video format, wherein the software driver is capable of controlling more than one type of display codec without modification, so that ~~remains in~~ a default configuration of the software driver does not change when using of the first one of the plurality of display codecs is changed to using of the second one of the plurality of codecs, wherein the first one of the plurality of codecs is coupled to a first display and the second one of the plurality of codecs is coupled to a second display.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 further comprising

emulating replacing the first one of the plurality of display codecs with the second one of the plurality of display codecs.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the second one of the plurality of display codecs is an SDVO codec.